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Direct employment, net wages, steam power and large scale industry, these are the things which capitalism, studied objectively, implies. Under it the standard of working class living steadily improved, and the owners of capital saved much more than they spent. But it does not follow that what worked in the nineteenth century will work in the twentieth. For the conditions of competition on which the old system was based are being transformed by the Combine on one hand and the Trade Union on the other. Furthermore the whole fabric of economic life has been stirred by the upheaval of war. Capitalism is now challenged less on account of its antecedents than on account of the outlook and supposed motives of those who are held responsible for it. The Co-operative Commonwealth is matched against capitalism. It should be possible to do justice to these new aspirations without reading irrelevant notions into the history of the nineteenth century.

A number of distinguished economic historians who are alive and at work in England and America today will do well to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest that last sentence.

CONYERS READ

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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*The Governments of Europe.* By FREDERIC AUSTIN OGG. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1920. Pp. x+775.

This new edition of a well-known text is a very welcome addition to the available texts in political science. Our participation in the war gave a new impetus to the study of foreign governments in American colleges and universities, and our enlarged place and unfolding responsibilities in world-affairs emphasize the need of a more extensive acquaintance with other political systems if we are to put off our insularity and exercise an intelligent leadership among the states of the world.

Professor Ogg's book is a very extensive revision of the *Governments of Europe* which appeared in 1913; it is almost a new text. A third of the original material is omitted entirely, namely the chapters dealing with Austria-Hungary, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Spain, and Portugal. This is, on the whole, an improvement. The book is used chiefly as a text in courses in so-called comparative government, and it is of little use to include in such courses more than one example of each type of government.

The space gained by this elimination is profitably used in expanding the treatment of the remaining states. The chapters in which is sketched the historical development of the political institutions of each state are completely rewritten, so that they cover the same ground in fewer words, usually with a gain in clearness and interest. Sometimes there is a

shifting of emphasis. For example, in the case of France more attention is given to pre-revolutionary conditions; and in the case of Germany emphasis is placed upon the liberal forces in the nineteenth century and their failure to prevail over autocracy and militaristic imperialism. On the other hand, much more space is given to the description of the existing governmental institutions, especially in England and France, and the changes of the last seven years are carefully explained. For instance, in the English section there are concise and comprehensive accounts of the war cabinet and the Representation of the People Act of 1918 and a good discussion of the parliamentary reorganization arising out of the war; and in the French section we find a long review of the movement for electoral reform which culminated in the Electoral Law of 1919. There is an entirely new chapter on the self-governing colonies of the British Empire.

The most noticeable change in the treatment of the larger states is the importance assigned to party politics. There are seventy-five pages of new material dealing with the party organizations and issues of England and sketching English political history since 1914; twenty-two pages are given to a most illuminating statement of the Irish question. The discussion of French party politics is increased in length almost threefold. There is some enlargement of the chapter on German parties, with an analysis of the reactionary elements in the German state just before the war and a much more extensive treatment of the Social Democrats; this is followed by a brief but clear account of party conditions during the war and the reform movement that led to the revolution and the establishment of the republic.

The pre-war governments of Germany and Prussia are included "partly because every student of comparative government ought to be familiar with the former German system, and partly because more of the old system than is commonly supposed survives in the new." Then, after the account of the revolution, there is an exposition of the chief features of the present constitution. A short chapter is given to a review of conditions in Russia before the war and a brief explanation of the political organization of the Soviet Republic. As before, the book abounds in bibliographical notes, including references to much valuable material in recent periodical literature, making it especially useful for classroom work.

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